



**SPECIAL MEETING
MINUTES
Monday, April 23, 2007
6th Floor Large Conference Room
City Hall, 3900 Main Street, Riverside, CA**

Chairman Percy called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

Roll Call

Brewer	VACANT	Hubbard	Brandriff	Ward	Percy	Corral	Castro	Simpson
✓	-----	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

✓ = Present A = Absent

Staff: Mario Lara, Interim CPRC Manager; Phoebe Sherron, Sr. Office Specialist

Public Comments

Mary Shelton

Ms. Shelton spoke regarding issues facing the Commission.

Deborah Wong

Dr. Wong commented on audio for CPRC Regular Meetings being online. She also commented on the issues with which the Commission has been faced over the past few months.

CPRC Vice-Chair Nominations

Due to the resignation of Les Davidson, former CPRC chair, Vice-Chair Brian Percy moved into the position of chair, leaving the vice-chair position vacant. Chairman Percy asked for nominations. Commissioner Simpson nominated Sheri Corral. Commissioners Brandriff and Ward seconded and the nomination was unanimous with vote to take place at the April 25 Regular Meeting.

Brown Officer-Involved Death Case

The Commission continued its discussion and wordsmithing of the draft public report regarding the officer-involved death of Lee Deante Brown on April 3, 2006.

Discussion mainly centered on the shooting scenario illustrations and officer and witness statements. The Commission ultimately came to a consensus regarding a start for the report's conclusion. The Commission voted on the following motion:

Motion for Approval	Motion	Second	Approve	Oppose	Abstain
The Commission finds that, based on the objective facts and circumstances it has been able to determine through its investigation at this time, the use of deadly force by Officer Ellefson was within policy.	Corral	Brewer	7	1	0

Commissioner Ward said that up until the shooting, the witnesses and officers' accounts were "parallel." He also said he did not find any evidence that Mr. Brown did "anything that would justify the escalation to the use of lethal force."

Mary Shelton asked about the Taser probes. Commissioner Ward asked Lt. Perea, RPD Liaison to the CPRC, about the number of probes in a Taser. Lt. Perea said there are two per Taser.

Ms. Shelton asked the Commission on what facts they are basing their conclusions. She asked that the commissioners review the entire case file before making a decision.

Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Brandriff thanked Ms. Shelton for her comments, noting that she had obviously studied the case in detail. He said, however, that it's easy to "Monday morning quarterback" a situation, while the officers have only moments to make a decision.

Commissioner Ward said that when people have to make split-second decisions, they usually aren't the best decisions. He said that the problem with RPD is that "they don't use the benefit of hindsight. They lead these officers to believe that the decision that they made was the correct decision so there's no need for introspection on the part of the officers." He said that if the officer's actions are condoned, the officer will see no need to change his actions.

Adjournment

The Commission adjourned at 8:07 PM.

Respectfully submitted,


 PHOEBE SHERRON
 Sr. Office Specialist